homes. Many of them would perhaps buy these commodities today if 461
the purchasing power of their products would permit them to do so.
The existence of their elders and forefathers was not a bit easier
either; hard work and rare leisure is, as they believe, their natural
inheritance, and, as long as this hard work provides their livelihood,
they do not think of revolting against it.

The Hungarian peasants are extremely hospitable and live a 574
gregarious social life. Among the many customs connected with receiv- 576
ing and entertaining, the few selected below are only random examples:

Guests, after entering the courtyard, do not knock on the door but wait until they are noticed and invited to enter. The men shake hands. The guest is then offered a choice seat in the main living room, which is generally the one opposite the door. Each drink consumed during the visit must be toasted to someone's health. Upon leaving, the guest is accompanied by the host to a distance determined by the prestige and position of the visitor.

During the winter months, the women assemble in the evening 462
to do handwork or spinning. This is always an occasion to tell tales, 221
jokes, to sing and to play games.